



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR POSSESSION, INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE CRACK COCAINE FOLLOWING JURY CONVICTION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today after a federal jury convicted him of possessing with intent to distribute crack cocaine.

Deron D. Gipson, 23, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to 20 years in federal prison without parole.

On Feb. 16, 2005, **Gipson** was found guilty by a federal trial jury of possessing with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine on Aug. 11, 2003.

Gipson was initially arrested after law enforcement officers executed a search warrant on Aug. 11, 2003, at a residence located on 29th Street in Kansas City. The warrant was executed after the officers observed a crack cocaine transaction being made at the residence on Aug. 5, 2003. At the time of the warrant, the officers observed **Gipson** throw crack cocaine through a window of the residence. At the time it was recovered, the cocaine was wet and still hot, as if it had just been cooked, and weighed 238.75 grams, Graves said.

On Aug. 20, 2003, law enforcement officers also observed a cocaine transaction take place through a window of the same residence in which 59 individually wrapped bags containing a total of 9.21 grams of crack cocaine were distributed.

Following the transaction that took place on Aug. 20, 2003, law enforcement officers executed another search warrant at the Kansas City residence where **Gipson** was present. During execution of the search warrant, law enforcement officers recovered 10.4 grams of crack cocaine packaged for sale, razor blades and plastic bags.

A second co-defendant also has been sentenced in this case.

Wesley A. Box, 23, also of Kansas City, was sentenced to two years and eleven months in federal prison without parole. On July 7, 2004, **Box** pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine. By pleading guilty, **Box** admitted that he possessed with intent to distribute crack cocaine on Aug. 20, 2003.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kathleen D. Mahoney and W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow